



## Conference of Professional Operators for Response Towing

*The National Association for the Marine Assistance Industry*

---

RE: IB Docket No. 11-109

July 28, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

C-PORT (Conference of Professional Operators for Response Towing), on behalf of the Marine Assistance Industry, is writing to comment on IB Docket No. 11-109, Interference with GPS Signals. The Marine Assistance Industry is comprised of over 250 companies operating over 750 vessels nationwide providing towing and salvage services to predominately recreational vessels. These cases exceed 120,000 per year and do not include search and rescue cases. We are regulated by the US Coast Guard and act in concert with them providing assistance to the boating public and assisting the Coast Guard and other state and local agencies with search and rescue and other missions. Our vessels are found on both coasts as well as on inland rivers and lakes. A reliable GPS system is critical to our timely response when assisting the boating public.

Our operators rely on GPS for electronic navigation needs. GPS is an integral part of our daily missions, and we look to the FCC to protect the integrity of the GPS signal. Situations on the water can turn from bad to worse quickly. These situations are not similar to a disabled vehicle on the side of the road. A vessel without power is at the mercy of the currents and weather. Without accurate, reliable navigation assistance, the marine assistance operators along with US Coast Guard and state and local agencies will have a problematical time locating and assisting these mariners. These mariners will have a difficult time pinpointing their location and relaying such to the responders. The consequence can be disastrous resulting in potential loss of life and property.

C-PORT, on behalf of these professional operators, asks you to preserve the integrity of the nation's GPS system as you consider the conditional approval for LightSquared. The reliability of the nation's GPS system must not be compromised.

Best Regards,

Tina M. Cardone  
Executive Director